

~~SECRET~~Control No. 447398
5 February 1954MEMORANDUM FOR: TWO Members
Mr. Spencer M. Beresford, FOA/MDAC
Mr. Douglas Coster, State/EDS

SUBJECT : Clearance for [] date of information 29 January, 1954.

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1. Enclosed herewith is a copy of the subject communication, the contents of which we consider to be probably true. Permission has been granted to disseminate further this communication to FOA/MDAC/Washington and USRO/Paris, classified SECRET/US OFFICIALS ONLY, FOR INFORMATION ONLY, and to State posts at Copenhagen, London, Bonn and Santiago, classified SECRET/FOR ACTION. No reference may be made to the source of the information or the source agency.

2. a. M. Berga-Ybern is a Spanish national residing in Copenhagen at 10 Marsdorffsvej. He has been reported as involved in illegal trading in metals with Bloc countries and to be one of a group having close connections with the Commercial Counselor at the Polish Mission in Copenhagen (see Copenhagen D 916, 28 April 1952, Secret). According to Zurich D 42, 1 August 1952, the firms of Cassmann and Glaus and Amesco of Zurich are allegedly controlled by Ybern. Cassmann and Glaus is on the Commerce Check List, Hicog/Bonn D-364, 30 June 1953, Confidential, reported []

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Firma Manuel Berga-Ybern, c/o Speditionsfirma Werner Mendler, Berlin-Charlottenburg, Wielandstrasse 13 was inquiring of the Schweizerischer Bankverein Zurich for the name and address of a Liechtenstein bank which would be able to finance a shipment of 4000 tons of electrolytic copper to Antwerp and one of 8000 tons to Gdynia. The Zurich bank 'declined the inquiry'.

b. Westminster Bank, 42 Lothbury St., London, has been reported as involved in the financing of the 1450 tons of Chilean copper sent from Norddeutsche Affinerie to Gdynia via Antwerp in September-October, 1953 (see Santiago D 107, 9 October, 1953, Confidential).

3. It is requested that this Agency be advised of further use of the foregoing information by the addressees of this memorandum.

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State Dept. declassification & release instructions on file

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